



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
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SHAILEN P. BHATT  
SECRETARY

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Users of DelDOT Road Design Manual and Delaware Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

**FROM:** Rob McCleary, Chief Engineer *RM*

**DATE:** December 22, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Guidance Documents

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Delaware is continually improving its design standards and processes to promote access to quality transportation for all of its citizens. Multi-modalism is the key to that effort because it offers choices and the best opportunity for Delawareans to take full advantage of the State's transportation system. This is especially true within the context of urbanized environments. To support this departmental goal, I endorse the use of several national design guidance documents related to bicycle and pedestrian facilities. I encourage DelDOT's engineers, planners and designers to make use of the following reference material as they incorporate bicycle and pedestrian improvements into their projects:

- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Bicycle and Pedestrian Program web site ([http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/))
- National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (2014)
- NACTO Urban Streets Design Guide, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (2013)
- Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Separated Bikeways (2013)
- AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (2012)
- ITE Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach (2010)
- Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) Report 112/National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 562, Improving Pedestrian Safety at Unsignalized Crossings (2006)
- FHWA Safety Effects of Marked Versus Unmarked Crosswalks at Uncontrolled Locations (2005)



Transparent Efficient Accountable Measured

- AASHTO Guide for the Planning, Design, and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (2004)

Note the state of the practice is rapidly advancing in the field of bicycle and pedestrian facility design and conflicting guidance exists. It is possible to choose treatments from the above references that do not fully comply with the current editions of the federal and Delaware Manuals on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Nevertheless, we need to take advantage of the best ideas available on this topic in order to deliver on our mission to provide modal choice for Delawareans. When considering use of any of the new/innovative elements found in these references, engineers, planners and designers must consult with DelDOT Traffic, Maintenance and Construction staff on issues such as MUTCD compliance, long-term maintenance impacts, and constructability. While the treatments suggested in these references usually can be successfully integrated with DelDOT's other standard design documents, they may require special considerations such as exceptions, waivers, or municipal maintenance agreements. I urge caution and collaboration among transportation professionals to maintain the safety and integrity of the state's transportation system.

In summary, DelDOT is committed to providing a safe and efficient transportation network to all road users. Used in combination with existing regulations, manuals, and policies, asset management considerations, and engineering judgment, the above references can be important tools in helping engineers, planners and designers meet this commitment.

cc: Shailen Bhatt, Cabinet Secretary  
Nicole Majeski, Deputy Secretary  
Mark Luszcz, Chief Traffic Engineer